GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1173
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2007
STRENGTHENING LEGAL SYSTEM
Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to strengthen legal system in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to computerize all the courts in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For providing speedy, affordable and substantial justice in the rural areas, the Gram Nyayalayas Bill, 2007 has been introduced in Rajya Sabha on 15`1` May, 2007. The said Bill was referred to the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice, for its examination. The said Committee presented its Twenty Second Report on Gram Nyayalayas Bill, 2007 to Rajya Sabha on 6m September, 2007 and also laid the same on the Table of Lok Sabha on 6:h September, 2007. The said Standing Committee made several recommendations on various provisions of the Gram Nyayalayas Bill, 2007. The recommendations of the said Committee are being examined. The Government is considering to pursue the said Bill in Rajya Sabha in the light of the recommendations made by the Committee.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) & (e) The Central Government has approved a scheme in February,2007 for computerization of all the District and Subordinate courts in the country and also for upgradation of the information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure of Supreme Court and High Courts, at a cost of Rs.442 crores. The scheme aims at providing suitable ICT infrastructure to all the courts in the country in a period of 2 years to enable computerization of all the court operation and to provide a National Judicial Data Grid inter-connecting all the courts in the country. Under this scheme, laptops have already been provided to 12155 Judicial Officers across the country and training of Judicial Officers and courts staff is also underway. It is also proposed to provide laser printers to all the Judicial Officers in the near future. Judicial Officers are also being provided with internet connectivity to enable them to access legal resources. Other components of the Project such as site preparation, development of application software, provisions of technical manpower etc. are also under implementation.